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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/619,363	07/19/2000	Leonard George Bleile	B-3973-618064-6	2189

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EXAMINER

LEI, TSULEUN R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/619,363

Applicant(s)

BLEILE ET AL.

Examiner

T. Richard Lei

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>4</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 9, 11-14, 37 and 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 9 & 37 recite the limitation "wireless communications interface". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 11-13 & 39-41 recite the limitation "expansion port". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 13 recites the limitation "expansion transceiver". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 14 & 42 recite the limitation "communications appliance port". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 41 recites the limitation "first wireless interface". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Torrey et al. (U.S. Patent 6,466,799) in view of Snelling et al. (U.S. Patent 5,555,258).

Regarding Claim 1, Torrey teaches a communications unit comprising: a) a first wireless transceiver port operable to communicate with a first wireless transceiver operable to conduct wireless communications with a wireless base station (Fig. 1A). Torrey does not teach the operation of more than one communications unit. Snelling, however, teaches that a first expansion interface in communication with said first wireless transceiver port and operable to communicate with a second communications unit on a plurality of communications channels, to

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permit said second communications unit to access the first wireless transceiver (Snelling, Fig.3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Snelling to the teaching of Torrey, to cover the multiple wireless line operations.

Regarding Claim 2, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first expansion interface is operable to conduct communications with the second communications unit on time multiplexed channels (Snelling, Col.2, Line 46).

Regarding Claim 3, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 wherein said expansion interface is operable to conduct communications with the second communications unit on frequency multiplexed channels (Official notice: FMD is a commonly used method for multiplexing a plurality of communications channels.).

Regarding Claim 4, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first wireless transceiver port and said first expansion interface are on a common base (Torrey, Fig.1A).

Regarding Claim 5, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first expansion interface is operable to conduct simultaneous communications with said second communications unit on said plurality of communications channels (Snelling, Fig.3).

Regarding Claim 6, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 further comprising a first communications appliance interface operable to communicate with at least one of the first wireless transceiver and said first expansion interface (Torrey, Fig.1A).

Regarding Claim 7, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first communications appliance interface includes an analog telephone interface (Torrey, Fig.1A).

Regarding Claim 8, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first wireless transceiver port, said first communications appliance interface and said first expansion interface are contained within a common base (Torrey, Fig.1A).

Regarding Claim 9, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first expansion interface and said first communications appliance interface are selectively operable to use said first wireless communications interface (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 10, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first expansion interface is operable to simultaneously support independent communications on said first appliance interface and with the wireless transceiver (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 11, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 6 wherein said first expansion port is programmable by commands received at said communications appliance interface (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 12, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim I wherein said first expansion port is programmable by commands received from at least one of said first wireless interface and said second communications unit (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 13, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 12 wherein said first expansion port is programmable to cause said first wireless transceiver port to selectively communicate with one of a plurality of communications units operable to communicate with said first expansion transceiver (Snelling, Fig.3).

Regarding Claim 14, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 12 wherein said first communications appliance port is programmable by commands received from a communications appliance in communication with said first communications appliance port (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 15, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first expansion interface comprises a bus interface (Snelling, Fig.3).

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Regarding Claim 16, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 15 wherein said bus interface includes a Pulse Code Modulation bus interface (Snelling, Fig.3).

Regarding Claim 17, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first wireless transceiver port includes a receptacle operable to receive and hold a wireless telephone (Torrey, Fig. 1A).

Regarding Claim 18, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications unit of claim 1 wherein said first wireless transceiver port is operable to communicate with a data interface on a wireless telephone (Torrey, Fig.1B).

Regarding Claim 19, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the communications interface of claim 1 wherein said expansion interface is operable to communicate with a plurality of other communications units (Snelling, Fig.3).

Regarding Claim 20, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a processor circuit programmed to effect communications between said first wireless transceiver port and said first expansion interface (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 21, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a communications appliance interface, said processor circuit being operable

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to effect communications between said first wireless transceiver port, said first expansion interface and said communications appliance interface (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 22, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the apparatus of claim 21 wherein said processor circuit is programmed to receive dialed digits from said communications appliance interface and communicate said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver port to cause a transceiver in communication with said first wireless transceiver port to dial said dialed digits on a wireless network (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 23, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the apparatus of claim 22 wherein said processor circuit is programmed to communicate said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver interface in response to a change in the rate at which dialed digits are received at said communications appliance interface (Torrey, Figs.3A to 5).

Regarding Claim 24, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the apparatus of claim 23 wherein said processor circuit is programmed to communicate said dialed digits to said first wireless transceiver interface in response to expiry of a timeout period after entry of said dialed digits at said communications appliance (Torrey, Figs.3A to 5).

Regarding Claim 25, see Claim 1 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 26, see Claim 6 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 27, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the system of claim 26 wherein at least some of the communications units have respective wireless transceiver ports operable to be accessed by one of said communications appliance interfaces (Torrey, Fig. 2A).

Regarding Claim 28, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the system of claim 27 wherein any of said communications appliance interfaces can access any of said wireless transceivers, through respective expansion interfaces on respective communications units on which said any of said communications appliances are located and respective communications units on which said wireless transceivers are located (Torrey, Fig. 2A and Snelling, Fig. 3).

Regarding Claim 29, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the system of claim 27 wherein any of said communications units is operable to receive programming information from other communications units to configure said any of said communications units to selectively make its wireless transceiver port and its communications appliance port communicate with a wireless transceiver port or a communications appliance port of at least one other of said plurality of communications units (Torrey, Fig. 2A, and Snelling, Fig. 3).

Regarding Claim 30, see Claim 1 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 31, see Claim 2 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

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Regarding Claim 32, see Claim 3 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 33, see Claim 4 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 34, see Claim 5 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 35, see Claim 6 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 36, see Claim 7 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 37, see Claim 9 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 38, see Claim 10 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 39, see Claim 11 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 40, see Claim 12 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 41, see Claim 13 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 42, see Claim 14 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

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Regarding Claim 43, see Claim 15 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 44, see Claim 16 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 45, see Claim 17 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 46, see Claim 18 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 47, see Claim 19 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 48, see Claim 22 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 49, see Claim 23 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 50, see Claim 24 for the teaching of Torrey and Snelling.

Regarding Claim 51, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches a method of providing multiple access to a wireless transceiver, the method comprising supporting communications through a first expansion interface, on one of a plurality of communications channels, between a first wireless transceiver port of a first communications unit and a plurality of communications units, where said first wireless transceiver port is operable to communicate with a first wireless

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transceiver operable to conduct wireless communications with a wireless base station (Torrey, Fig.2A, and Snelling, Fig.3).

Regarding Claim 52, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the method of claim 51 further comprising supporting communications between a communications appliance interface on any of said communications units and said first wireless transceiver port (Torrey, Fig.2A).

Regarding Claim 53, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the method of claim 52 further comprising supporting communications between wireless transceiver ports on at least some of said communications units and communications appliance interfaces on at least some of said communications units (Torrey, Fig.2A, and Snelling, Fig.3).

Regarding Claim 54, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the method of claim 53 supporting communications access through respective expansion interfaces on respective communications units to permit any of said communications appliance interfaces to access any of said wireless transceivers (Torrey, Fig.2A, and Snelling, Fig.3).

Regarding Claim 55, Torrey as modified by Snelling teaches the method of claim 53 further comprising programming any of said communications units from other communications units to configure said any of said communications units to selectively make its wireless transceiver port and its communications appliance port communicate with a wireless transceiver

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port or a communications appliance port of at least one other of said plurality of communications units (Torrey, Fig.2A, and Snelling, Fig.3).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hsueh (U.S. Patent 6,366,784) discloses a mobile phone extension set.

De Pani et al. (U.S. Patent 6,480,714) discloses a cellular docking station.

Tam (U.S. Patent 5,526,403) discloses a wireline interface for cellular telephone.

Carroll (U.S. Patent 6,487,403) discloses a wireless universal provisioning device.

Rodrigues et al. (U.S. Patent 6,400,957) discloses a wireless phone-line interface.

Dufour et al. (U.S. Patent 6,212,377) teaches a system of providing group wireless extension phone in a network.

Helstab et al. (U.S. Patent 6,073,031) discloses a desktop docking station for wireless handset.

Rasor (U.S. Patent 5,714,943) discloses a radio data interface device.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to T. Richard Lei whose telephone number is 703-305-4828. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 to 5:00.

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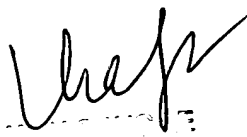
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dan Hunter can be reached on 703-308-6732. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-5403 for regular communications and 703-308-5403 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

TRL

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January 3, 2003


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